# Portage Path to Genealogy



THE PORTAGE PATH
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individual membership
\$12 per year for two

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each year.

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Barb Petroski

people at the same

address. Dues are payable in January of

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com

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September-October 2008

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#### **To Our Members:**

Summer is almost at an end, the kids are back in school and the chapter is gearing up for the fall & winter meetings.

I hope everyone found at least one new item to add to his or her family histories while doing research this summer. I found many items for my own family in the online records website--<a href="http://search.labs.familysearch.org">http://search.labs.familysearch.org</a>. The death certificates and census records cover many states and this was a great help for me to fill in a number of gaps.

Members of our chapter have kept busy this summer by working on files and papers at the Portage County Historical Society. Obituary notebooks were indexed, files resorted, new surnames added, and work is continuing on at least two more book projects. The diary of Robert Heighton of Franklin Township was transcribed and is in a second proofing.

See you at the September meeting.

Your President, Barb Petroski

### Meeting Dates—3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month

Where: Portage County Historical Society, 6549 N. Chestnut St., Ravenna (located next to the Ravenna High School Stadium and just south and across the street from Maple Grove Cemetery), unless otherwise noted.

TIME: 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted

September 20—Sandy Malitz is scheduled to be the speaker. She will discuss doing genealogy research online. Ms. Malitz is the Genealogist at the Chardon Library in Geauga County and newsletter editor of the Raconteur for the Geauga County Chapter OGS.

October 18—First Settlers Luncheon-will be at the Strickland House, Portage County Historical Society. See page 2 for details and page 14 for reservation form.

November 15 — program to be announced

**December-**No meeting

**Chapter News:** 

## First Settlers Luncheon [See page 14 for order form.]

The First Settlers of Portage County will welcome four new members at their luncheon held at the Strickland House, Portage County Historical Society Campus, 6549 North Chestnut St., Ravenna, Ohio [Brick home on south side of Clock Tower and Memorial Garden] on October 18, 2008, at 12:00 noon.

We welcome new members into First Settler's, Barbara Springston, Michael Dean, Jack Ferguson and Linda Ferguson.

Any member of the Portage County Chapter OGS is welcome to attend, and this occasion takes the place of the regular October meeting.

The menu will be Lasagna, meatballs, tossed salad, green beans and Italian bread and butter and will be served buffet style. Dessert, coffee, iced tea or water are also included in the cost of \$10.00 per person. Please send your reservation and payment to Carolyn Kale, 1201 S. Diamond, Ravenna, OH 44266 before October 1, 2008. Any questions call Carolyn at 330-296-4412.

**Beth Clark**, from the Shalersville Historical Society, will be our speaker. Don't miss this event. If you are interested in becoming a First Settler contact me at <u>jlwoodring34@aol.com</u>. The criteria are that you need to establish a direct line ancestor who settled in Portage County before December 31, 1840.

Jackie Woodring Chairperson

#### CHAPTER E-MAIL ADDRESS, QUERIES, & RESEARCH INFORMATION

If you wish to send a query for this newsletter please send it to <a href="mailto:pccogs@embarqmail.com">pccogs@embarqmail.com</a>
Queries for members are free; \$1.00 fee for queries from non-members who must mail in their request with payment.

If you are requesting research please use the chapter mailing address (P. O. Box 821, Ravenna OH 44266-0821) and *always* enclose a self addressed stamped envelope (SASE) and an e-mail address if you have one. Please allow at least 4-6 weeks for a reply. If material is found you will be notified of charges. We only send items, which are pre-paid.

## Celebrate Family History Month at OGS Fall Seminar

The Ohio Genealogical Society will host a Fall Seminar featuring John T. Humphrey of Pennsylvania on October 4, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the James W. Kehoe Center for Advanced Learning, North Central State College Shelby Campus, 175 Mansfield St (SR 39), Shelby, Ohio.

Cost is \$30.00 for OGS members who pay by October 1<sup>st</sup> and \$35.00 at the door or non-members.

Visit <u>www.ogs.org</u> or <u>http://attc.ncstatecollege.edu/drivingdirections.htm</u> for more information.

The following letter recently came to the Portage County Historical Society as a donation from Mr. Jack **Kohl**'s son. Written by historian Dudley S. **Weaver**, father of one of our chapter members, this letter contains a very good history of early cemeteries in the Ravenna area. [Letter was copied as written]

Feb. 10, 1975 Mr. Jack Kohl Ravenna Twp. Trustee Ravenna Ohio 44266

Dear Mr. Kohl,

I was reading the article "Graves Older Than Ravenna Cemetery" in the record-Courier for Thursday Feb 6, 1975, with a certain degree of interest.

Years ago when I was understudying the remembered John Lowrie, Ravenna's Historian, now deceased, we quite frequently paid visits to the beautiful Maple Grove Cemetery, for meditation and research. My historical notes taken on those trips and my research since can, I believe, answer some of your questions.

The answer to the reason why there are gravestones, now standing in what John Lowrie called the old original burial grounds; (This is the first section of the present cemetery as you come north on Chestnut St, just pass the Chestnut Hills Golf Course) that are older than 1821 when title passed to you people, represents the remains and markers of 15 persons moved there from the public burial grounds. Present day location would be in the area of the intersection of west Riddle Ave. and south along Sycamore St. in Ravenna City.

But let me give you the background of the first public burial grounds and the early history of Maple Grove Cemetery.

Benjamin Tappan founder of Ravenna 1799, donated the land for the first public burial grounds anywhere in what is now the area of Ravenna Township. It was a plot 180 ft. by 180 ft. Tappan in 1808 laid off a plat of land containing 192 lots. This constitutes the area between Highland Ave. on the north; Walnut St. on the east; Riddle Ave. on the south and Sycamore St. on the west. Tappan had to include the burial grounds even tho the land lay outside the village plat, because by 1808 several persons had already been interred there.

According to the records copied from documents prepared by Ravenna's early pioneer, Col. William Frazer, who arrived in Ravenna 1814 and aided in removing the remains of the 15 bodies to what is now Maple Grove Cem., we have the following list of persons buried and dates, in the public burial grounds. Frazer referred to the burial grounds as Tappan's graveyard.

The first interment in Tappan's graveyard, was the young son of a John Daniels who died of fever in 1802. Next was a David Moore in 1803. Following, was a Mrs. Ruggles and her son, 1804. Then, a Mrs. Smith and a Mrs. Patterson in 1805. Jared Mason in 1807. In 1808, there are listed, son of David Jennings. 2 young girls belonging to Abel Horton. 1 man and 1 woman, could not identify. 1809, one son of Loomis from Deerfield. Epaphras Mathews, the man who was murdered by Henry Aungst-out near Cotton Corners-on Aug. 20, 1814. Robert Campbell a soldier in the war of 1812, was the last person to be interred, 1814.

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Ravenna's beautiful and historical Maple Grove Cemetery was originally a private burial grounds. In 1813 a plot of land containing 1 ½ acre was set aside for burials in the north section of Ravenna. It was offered for public use by Howard Fuller, Eraster Carter, Moses Smith and Anson Beeman.

By a vote of 3 to 1, it was decided to call the new burial grounds, "Evergreen". Sluman Smith, a young man of 17, son of Moses Smith, was the first person interred. He died June 9, 1813 (Today, Sluman Smith's faded tombstone can be viewed by anyone from the new sidewalk at the extreme southwest corner of Maple Grove Cemetery).

[Weaver letter continued from page 3]

Zenas Carter was the second burial. He was drowned in Muddy Lake (Lake Hodgson) about 1814. About the same time permission was granted to move the 15 persons buried in the previous mentioned Tappan graveyard to the new Evergreen Cemetery, providing a suitable road was cut through from the Court House square. The remains were moved by Wm. Frazer.

Captain John Campbell of Campbell's crossing (later called Campbellsport) worked out a deal with Solmon Carter a part time sexton to be allowed to move 9 persons buried on a hill a half a mile north of Campbell's crossing to the new cemetery. Campbell had 2 small children buried in the Campbellsport cemetery but wanted them move because of soil erosion. Campbell died in 1827 and is believed to be the first burial with Masonic honors in Evergreen cemetery (now Maple Grove).

Your reference to the trustees theorize that the markers may have been moved to Maple Grove from an old cemetery said to have been located on Brady Lake Rd., has no foundation. The remains of 20 some persons buried in this so called Blackhorse area are still there. Some years ago, I interviewed a D. Breckenridge who had purchased the land surrounding the cemetery. It was he who took down the fence and removed the gravestones and then leveled the ground. When I questioned his right to destroy the cemetery and remove the markers, he said the land was his and he wanted no part of the cemetery standing on his land.

I have tried many times to learn the names of the persons buried there and Orral Frank and myself wrote to every record source we could think up, with no results. We believe the Blackhorse area cemetery was established about 1850 by families living in the district.

#### \*\*\*

Getting back to the early history of Maple Grove, research has revealed that for many years, Evergreen cemetery was only an excavated mud hole for the interment of the dead, so said one indignant citizen of Ravenna, March 6, 1849 in a local newspaper. Some of the highlights to his written article mentioned these points. It is extremely painful to surviving friends to see the forms of those of those whom they have loved and cherished, deposited in so unseemly a resting place. The present grave yard is, from the nature of the soil, notoriously unfit, for the purposes of interment, and ought speedily to be abandoned. He said, he hopes his views would meet with a hearty response, and that something would be done without delay. Nothing was done.

Philo L. King became sexton in 1878 and the present vault was built for the storage of bodies when the ground was frozen. It is to Mr. King credit that the general layout of the front of Evergreen Cem. (Maple Grove) was his idea and labor. He immediately set to work to grade the grounds. The unsightly grave mounds were leveled so the grass could be mowed close to the monuments. He developed the beautiful two little lakes system \_\_ to the front of the cemetery and maple trees were planted & the name changed to Maple Grove.

The Ladies Cemetery Association came into being and they paid for more Maple trees, had fountains installed. By 1885 Maple Grove Cem. covered 35 acres. By 1890 Maple Grove Cem. was proclaimed by visitors from far and near as one of the most beautiful cemetery in the state of Ohio.

Everything about Maple Grove Cemetery tells its story of love and respect for the dead by the living. To me the appearance of cemeteries is an index to the character of the community and especially to the sexton or superintendent. We are fortunate indeed of having another Philo King in superintendent John Riethman and his good wife.

Very truly yours, Dudley S. Weaver Historian of Po. Co. Hist. So.

P.S. The Maple Grove Chapel was dedicated on Sunday, May 24, 1903.

The following information was found in a stack of newspaper clippings, located at Portage County Historical Society, no name of newspaper was available. The date found on part of a page was December 10, 1850. Continued on pages 6 and 7.

## SALE OF LANDS AND TOWN LOTS FOR TAXES.

## A List of Lands and Town Lots in Portage County, Ohio, returned delinquent by the Treasurer of said County for the year 1849

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Ryns, Wm. B. & Meeker, C. W	enme	27	spart	- 1 58 <b>2</b>	4 14 1	17 7 31 8
Ryns, Wm. B.	same.	29	s part	58 14	2 83 7	1 05 9 1 89 6
FRANKLIN.	Center Place.				4.4	en e
Burr, Martin Jr.	•	ă,	whole	€6 22		2 07 0 3 42 9
Hand, Titus H.	B & T. Addition.	2 5	whole	150 4 10	4 02 6	03 1 05 7
HIRAM.	Harrison.		and the second second			The second secon
Atwater, Caleb	same	15	whole	150 5	2 30 6	38 6 69 2
Daniels, Vespasian	rame	127	a of whole	101	3 01 7	04.8 06.5
Quimby, Samuel	same	<b>⊹6</b>	whole	66 5	0 29 5	37 2 66 7
same	snme	7	whole	176 1	2 07 0	-08 8 15 8
same	8ก เทอ	8	whole	219 13	2 07.0	08 8 15 8
same	same	g	whole	£33 2:	5 44 7	18 5 23 2
same	saine	10	N.	3:	3 22 4	28 2 50 6
Scudder, Calvin F.	samo	27	who'e	200 4	7 27 6	34 9 62 5
Washington, Wm. B.	an me	56	of whole	60 2	2 01 1	04 8 05 9
same	ราme	123	of whole	60	3 01.7	08 5 10 2
NELSON.	Garrettsville.	to such asym	Karana ay ing Propinsi	레취하다 그렇게	The state of the s	
Beardsley, David J.	same	69	whole	50 J		09 4 10 4
same	нате	70	whole	50 5	3 O2 0	08 4 10.4
same	same	73	whole	ູ້ 50 3	3 02 O	08 4 10 4
same	same	78	whole	्रि <b>61</b> ह	3 05 6	24 5
same	samo	79	whole	ື 50 ເ	3 02 0	08 4 10 4
sa me	some	84	whole	61 6	042	18 0 22 2
same	sa m <del>o</del>	84	w hote	61 4		12 2
same	same	85	whole	ં આ દ	5 03 5	15 0 18 5
Drake, E. & LaFayette	samo	130	S of Main St.		7 04 9	12.7
Daniels, Vespasian	same	52	56 100 of whole	46	9 06 3	15 8 . 22 1
same	sa me	53	52 100 of half	.5	03 5	08 8 12 3
Garrett, Elisha	same	59	whole	88 . 9		16 6 22 9
same	saine	66	1 of whole	51 9		16 6 22 9
Heaton, Wm and Robinson, J.	same	53	5 100 of half S.			08 9 10 9
Nelson, James R.	same	<b>(5</b> )	S. E	70 143	3 1 01 4	1 17 9 2 19 3
RAVENNA.	Ravenna.					
Hall, M. & Gilmere, H.	same	136	} M	60 95		82 6 1 36 6
same	same	137	⅓ M	60 14	08.2	11 9 20 1
same	same	138	M on Ally	60 I I		11 9 20 1
Wadsworth, Wm.	sam <del>e</del>	133	of Send on Al			16 3 27 4
same	same	134	dofS end on Al	ly= 60 19		18 3 27 4
same	same	135	1 of S end on Al		75.5	1 11 4 1 86 9
	D L Add.					
Van Kleeck, Amaryllis	<del>-</del> -	1	whole	60 451		3 92 6 6 58 6
same		2	whole	60 47		40 7 68 3
same		3	whole	60 47	27 6	40 7 63 3
51111W			AUDITO	R'S GFFIO	DE, PORTA	GE COUNTY, }
					Dec 3, 185	
					,	

Tax Book for the year 1839 -- Portage County Historical Society (Book on shelf in main Library area.) The following pages are only some of many listing residents in Atwater, Charlestown, Edinburgh, Freedom and Hiram townships. Listed are the names of residents, number and value of horses and cattle, money at Brokers Exchange, number and value of pleasure carriages and total value of personal property. Some pages will list residents, range, township, section, lot, acres and property values of land, houses and factories. This book contains only the townships listed above. Pages are copied directly from book.

es are copied directly from book.						
1/1///		1			2	
Murater		-		4	Money at Out	Oleasure
Cersonal Property	No	rses	Car	tle	Money at Int Merch V Exch	Carriages Votal
Owners Names	So	Value	No	Walue	Brokers Capital	M Value Value
Anthony And W.	/	40	1	8	<b>R</b>	4.8
Atwater Oaleb.	2	80	8	64.		144
Anthony Theophilus				36		96
Aldew Lodema			. 1	8	900	908
Anthony Harley			n	12		76
Anne Lewis		40	6	48		88.
Atwater Joshun	2	SI	/	8	770	838
Burtholomew Albert		40	5	40	4	87
Bartholomin Levi		40	/	8		48
Berns John		40	25	40		80
Baldroin Samuel	2	80	7	56		136
Baldrin Joseph C.				40		120
Baldwin Jonathan I.	1	40	10	80		120
Baldwin Narow		1	i	120		240
Baldwin Ranson	2	80	2	16		96
Baldwin Ovin			8	64		64
Butter David			2	64		16
Witter Luther		40	7	56		96
BluMeshe Orrin			J.	24		24
Buldwin Muses	/	40	10	80		120
Buldrow Navow Jr.	/	40	6	48		. 88
Bradley Churles			1	56		. 36
Buch boin O.	1	40	3	24		64
Brush Him C.	/	40				40
Pankdull (David)			2	16		16
Pouller Rufus			2	- [	1	16
Bishop William	23	120	1 4	32		152

14 Charles	lou	UN)			Money a	A Sal-	Plan	Surl	:
Personal Property	Ho	7211	Cath	te 1	Merch &	Ench	Car	rays	Total
Personal Property Owners Names	S	Walne	So	Value	Broken	Capital	No	Value	Walue
	42	1680	169	1357		677	,	40	3749
Ourtiss Saxton A				8					1
Ourtiss Milliam H	/	40	9	70	•				1/2
look Ausel	/	40	//	88					128
Cathin Sucins	/	40	/	88 8		• ′			48
Canfield Carlton S.				- 16					16
Cook Oliny	1	40		8					48
Canfield Newton			/	8	•				~ 8
Dorman Rollin Co.			8	64					64
Dorman Joel	/	40	7	56					96
Damow Freemaw		40	4	30					72
Dougal J. B.	3	120	/	8					128
Farnam Sheldow	2	80		144			-		224
Gilman Solomon			9	72		,	-		72
Gilmore games	/	40	7	56 32					.96
Greenleaf Osracl	1	40	4	32		and the second s	ļ	.	72
Greenleaf Tilly	/	- 1		88	*		ļ		128
Hall Horace of.	/	40		8		and interference of			48
Holdon Joseph		40	19.	150				. 1	192
- Hall Jeremiah Hall Sheldow	4	160	3	248	•		Ì	1	184
i									88
Hall Suke				16	S.				16
Hall Suther				16		Wardy and State			16
Hall Joel D.	/	40	4	32		1			72
Hall Smith	2	80	18	144			/	40	264
Myde Voluntine	1	l	. !	8	•				8
Gordan Hugh	2	80	2	16					96
James Francis			/	9					8
James Joseph R.	2	80	7	56					136
James Moses on	/	40	6	48	•				88

Portage Path to Genealogy Volume 30 Number 5 Septembra Tax Book for the year 1839 continued from page 9:	ber-October 2008	page 10
No Odinburgh	· Value of Lands Houses	Potal .
Owners Names RI and Sol	hart acres Factionis	Value)
		31.016
Gilbert leharles 72181 / Den	2d 8	27
	NHS 79.01	208
Gould Levi 72 VEY 2 W		161
1ame 72 12 3 8M	Vcor 38.48	163
1ame . 72 087 3 DEC	cor 3.50	16
Grene Robert 72 My 6 SM		39
Grund Wilson " 7 3 MM 4 wh	10le 93.66	320
Goiswold Dudley 72 Met 2 W	·	128
. Loss armond 72 SE5 4 wh	ole 98.40	301
Migley James 72 My 4 wh	hole 7/	3/7
Migley James 72 My 4 wh Same 72 ses 3 N	W con 20	64
Hutson Richard R. 72 SE2 4 ws.	hole 107.29 80.10 294	471
Migley Edmund NO 72 NOV 1 W		
Jane 12 Bret ho	use 145	439
Himaw Robinson & 72 Mg 3 wh	hole 103.96	321
Hinnan Edward 72 SW6 3 W	holo 106.90	326
Witchcock Augustus 72 MW 21 S	57.18	175
same 72 MW 22 ws	hole 152.52 529	,
same 72 France hos	n20 · /00	/ /
Hoon Philip 72 DE7 4 No		146
Haffman William 72 M1 3 Oh		161
Jane 72 M/ 4 N.		30
Maffman John 72M4 51	1	216
Huffman Adam 72 M1 3 N	half 50.26	161
Heighton Thomas 7 2 SW5 5 wh		325
Hanold Joseph : 72 MH 5 Ne	i I	105
Hall Edwin A 72 DE1 1 who		336
How Daniel 73 Mer. 1 62		184
Hall Philo of 7206 41		155
		•

Tax Book for the year 1839 continued from page 10:

Il & AMELOOM	7/				Morrael	A Cal	Glens	lune	
Personal Property Owners Names	Av.	Value	Car As	tle Value	Merch	V Exclusive	Can	razes Value	Votat Value
Ourtiss dra						40		40	2.640
2	,	40	4	32					40
Demow Joseph	,	40	۷.	67.					
Doud Ahimay Daniels Reuben	/	40.		56 88					96 88
Davis Isanc C.	n	INA	11	96	*			•	216
Drake Enoch	1	100	12	16		850			906
Denison Clias	/	40	5	40	- Control of the cont	0 70			- 80
Drake Orsanus S.	,	40	3	211	To the state of th				64
Demaw Bilas			,	24	CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF				8
Durkee Joel				80				-	120
Delans Jonas S.		t		104		•			144
Dudley Charles				12				manufacture of the state of the	32
Durkee Samuel M									112
Daniels Franklin S.	1	40		72			•		48
Densone John	1	40	5						40
Francis games		40							40
Francis James Finch Joshna Foot Orois	2	80	//	1 88					168
Foot Orvis	2	80	2	16	1				96
Ganning Amasa S.	1	40	1	8					48
Killett Oliver N	/	40	2	16	1				56
Gardner William Di	•		4	30	er en				32
Goodrich Hiraw	/	40	2	16			.		56
Gardner Frai	/	40	1	1					80
Griswold Syman	/	40	1	1	1				80
Groy William W	1	40		24	i		1		64
Jage Albert	-		1	32	•				32
Hatch Henry	/	40	4	32					.72
Hos Kins Heraw	/	40		4			-		56
Atcheoch Channey	1 /	40	8	64	,				104

Tax Book for the year 1839 continued from page 11:

	ııı pag	•							
Mg Howam					Mana	allent	P	1	
Para a Bahata	BL	n App	10.7	7/0	Money	ar Emr	Par	alire	Ortal
Personal Property Owners Names	Solo	Value)	M	Nalue	Brok	Vers Calutal	So	Value	Value
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1		l	1			1 1		
Sol of C	142	2680	428	2004		3.169		. 60	19.//3
Danford Orw S.	1	0.1	/						en
Sanford Calow of	1 2	80		_					00
Southworth Joseph	/	40		1		•			72
Danford Medad	. /	40	ł	40			-		80
Stevens Gude	2	80	1						160
Snow Wethuel			3	24	200		1		24
Shaw Tliny			/	8	.•		-		7
Sturdevant Cyrus			1	8	·				8
Strong Francis	/	40	2	16		•			56
Sanford Suther	2	80	2	16					96
Stokes John			4	30					32
Tildew John	/	40	7	56					96
Tilden Arunah	3	120	6	48					168
Taylor Elisha			5	40					40
Tildew Esther			3	24			-		24
Tilden Ariel			2	16			-		16
Thomas Benajahl.	1 2	80	4	32	}				1/2
Thomas Celum	1	40	/	8					48
Tyler Jesse	1 2	80	ł	16					96
Tyler Calvin	2	80	1						104
Dildew V Jenjamin			3	24					24
Turner Sewis (M)			5				İ		40
	2	811	2	,					96
Mdall James	1 4	1		10	7				112
Made Alvah	1	140	/ _	Inni	-		1		_
Mdall Samuel gy		80	28	20		3 🛊			304
Mdall Henry		40					1		72
Adall George	/	40	14	112				1	150
Adall John	1		/	8					8
Made Many			3	24					24

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[index includes name,					
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maps to help locate burial plots	s. *Volume I incl	udes a surname i	ndex and Volumes II th	rough XIII have an every-name inde	X.
A separate publication for Vol	ume I has an every	name index. Pri	ices include shipping cl	narges.	
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IS THIS A NEW ADDRESS OR E-MAIL? YES\_\_\_\_\_ NOTICE: If you wish a membership card please enclose a SASE (self addressed stamped envelope) Thank you.

Please attach a list of the surnames you are researching. There is a limit of 12 names for this listing! Please PRINT Surnames must be received by February 15<sup>th</sup> to be included in the March-April newsletter.

Portage Path to Genealogy Volume 30 Number 5 September-October 2008 page 14

## First Settler's of Portage County Luncheon Reservation Form

DATE: Saturday, October 18, 2008

PLACE: Strickland House, Portage County Historical Society Campus, 6549 North Chestnut St., Ravenna,

Ohio [Brick home on south side of Clock Tower and Memorial Garden]

**TIME**: 12:00 noon.

Name:		
Phone:	or	E Mail
How many attending:	_@ \$10:00 each	Amount enclosed: \$

Please send your reservation and payment with check made payable to Portage County Chapter OGS to:

Carolyn Kale 1201 S. Diamond Ravenna, OH 44266

Payment due before October 1, 2008.

Portage County Chapter OGS P.O. Box 821 Ravenna OH 44266